

**Docket No. 217 – Development and Management Plan Inspection**

Northeast Utilities Service Company Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction of a 345-kV electric transmission line and reconstruction of an existing 115-kV electric transmission line between Connecticut Light and Power Company's Plumtree Substation in Bethel, through the towns of Redding, Weston, and Wilton, and to the Norwalk Substation in Norwalk, Connecticut.

**Date:** July 12, 2006

**Inspector:** Don Ukers

**Location:** Overhead Line (Composite 345kV and 115kV Gallows Hill to Archers Lane,  
345kV H-Frame Hoyts Hill to Gallows Hill, and Norwalk Section)

**Storm/**

**Rain Event:** Between 0.27-0.48" of rain was recorded on 7/6 with an additional 0.58"-0.71" on 7/12 as reported by NOAA and depending on location.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
Access Roads and Adjacent Roadways	- The Composite ROW work is mainly accessible from Gallows Hill Rd by an existing trail path with a swing gate, and an access road passing through the Archers Lane substation. 7/12/06. -Most steep slopes have erosion in the stone dust.	- If necessary, additional measures for stability should be considered for access needs. If any areas still have ruts at the end of the work, they will need to be regraded to return to original conditions. 12/8/05-7/12/06.	-Not Applicable (N/A) until evaluation at the end of work.
<b>Composite</b>	- Active clearing was not noted past Archers Lane. Wood chips have been blown off the cleared ROW in some areas. See the vegetative clearing section for more details. 3/2-7/5/06.	-See vegetative clearing section for details and recommendations. 7/12/06.	- Still needs attention
	- One spot along the access road past Archers Lane has stone dust from the road overtopping the silt fence adjacent to the wetland. A second spot is also piling up. 6/7-7/12/06.	- Repairs should be made either by transition station or overhead crews. Stone/sediment needs to be removed. 6/1-7/12/06. - An additional haybale was installed but is not enough. 6/14/06	-Needs attention- also see transition station report.
<b>345kV H-Frame</b>	- Work areas are accessed from Hoyts	-Continue to monitor the conditions of all access	- N/A at this time

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Norwalk Section	Hill, Chestnut Ridge Rd, the Bethel Res. water plant road, Lime Kiln Rd, Whortleberry Rd, John Todd Way and Costa Lane. 3/29-7/12/06.	roads. If muddy conditions re-occur, place more wood chips or consider installing silt fence as needed. 7/12/06.	
	- Washouts were noted within the wood chips in the access road between poles #5-6. 6/7-7/12/06.	- Erosion remains contained to the road but repair if feasible. Maintain existing erosion controls as necessary. 7/12/06.	- Needs attention when feasible.
	- The access road erosion near structure #31 was regraded and a haybale check dam was observed. 7/12/06.	-Continue to monitor and fill in constructed swale if not already done. 7/12/06	-Haybales were noted. We just need to confirm the swale was filled in.
	- Controls at Bethel water building were in good shape. However, Webb Rd is receiving significant storm run-off from Nashville Rd ext. 7/12/06.	- Flow from Webb Rd during rain events is not project related but it is washing out the road significantly 7/5-7/12/06	- N/A at this time
	- Stone dust and/or gravel access roads are in place at Perry Ave and Broad St. 4/6-7/12/06.	- Controls are in place. 7/12/06.	- N/A at this time
	- The Kent Rd (north) stone access pad is clogged with sediment, and dirt is tracking on the roadway. 7/5-7/12/06.	- The stone pad should be cleaned out and improved and sediment should be swept from the roadway This has worsened with the rain. 7/5-7/12/06.	- Needs attention ASAP
	-A new crossing was constructed by the railroad over the tracks to the Wilton Terrace portion of the ROW from Arrowhead Rd. 7/12/06	- None at this time. 7/12/06	-N/A
	- The stone dust road is in place along this section of ROW. 7/12/06	- Mats may be necessary in this section to reach a structure location near a	- N/A at this time.

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
	<p>-Several wetlands are matted to the south of Kent Rd. Stone and sediment were being pulled back from the fence in spots where it had overtopped. Haybales are also going to be placed 7/12/06.</p>	<p>wetland. 7/5-7/12/06</p> <p>- Continue to repair in this area and reinforce the spots that continuously wash out. 7/12/06</p>	<p>- Stone and sediment was being pulled back</p>
Line Construction Composite	<p>- Crews were in the ROW past Archers Lane, and off Gallows Hill Rd, clipping in wires. 7/12/06.</p>	<p>- None at this time. 7/12/06.</p>	<p>-N/A</p>
345kV H-Frame	<p>- Crews continue to pull wire off John Todd Way. 6/20-7/12/06.</p>	<p>- See erosion control section. 7/12/06.</p>	<p>-N/A</p>
	<p>- Crews were clipping in wire in the vicinity of Costa Lane. 7/12/06</p>	<p>- None at this time. 7/12/06</p>	<p>- N/A</p>
Norwalk Section	<p>- Old towers remain down in the area of Perry Ave, Kent Rd, North Seir and the Rt.7 extension. They will be removed eventually. 7/12/06.</p>	<p>- None at this time 7/12/06</p>	<p>- N/A</p>
	<p>- Structure #67 off North Seir Hill Rd has been installed and foundation reinforcement work was occurring in this section 7/12/06.</p>	<p>-None at this time. 7/12/06.</p>	<p>-N/A</p>
	<p>- Foundations are complete to the south of Kent Rd and structure #62 was installed 7/12/06.</p>	<p>- See erosion controls section for recommendations. 7/12/06.</p>	<p>- N/A</p>
	<p>-The first foundation location to the north of Kent Rd was being reinforced. 7/12/06</p>	<p>- See erosion controls section for recommendations. 7/12/06.</p>	<p>- N/A</p>
	<p>- Foundation drilling was</p>	<p>- See erosion controls</p>	<p>-N/A</p>

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
	occurring in the section south of Arrowhead Rd. moving towards the pond. 7/12/06	section for recommendations. 7/12/06.	
Erosion and Sediment Controls	- Water levels appear to remain below problem levels at the 2 <sup>nd</sup> wetland crossing along the Archers Lane access road. 2/16-7/12/06.	- None at this time. 7/12/06.	-N/A
<b>Composite</b>	- Silt fence is being overtopped by sediment piling up from run-off on the access road past Archers Lane. 6/1-7/12/06	-The overtopping areas should be repaired and stone pulled back and removed from the wetland. 6/1-7/12/06	- Needs attention from either transition station or overhead crews
Erosion controls continued	- Wood chips had been blown into the uplands and wetland area at the third structure in from Gallows Hill Road. 2/22-7/12/06. Another area with deep wood chips off the cleared ROW remains past Archers Lane. 3/15-7/12/06.	-Make sure chips stay on the ROW. Contractors should remove the off ROW chips since this is not allowed in the D&M plan. 2/22-7/12/06. - Wood chips on the ROW can remain at a depth of 3". Deeper piles should be spread out. 4/6-7/12/06.	-Still needs attention (CL&P is looking into a solution here)
	-Turbid run-off had been noted in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> wetland past Archers Lane last week but it was difficult to determine the exact point of entry. Water levels had decreased since. 7/5-7/12/06	- Maintain controls here. Determine where the run-off is entering and repair it. 6/28-7/12/06	- Needs attention
	- An old stockpile was noted at a structure before Rt 53 off Gallows Hill. 5/17-7/12/06	-Make sure that restoration occurs in previously disturbed areas and that materials are removed and not forgotten in place. 5/17-7/12/06	- Needs attention when feasible
	- Disturbed soil remains adjacent to structure #34 off Gallows Hill. Controls had been	- The soil should be pulled back and the area vegetated- even if it is temporarily. 6/14-7/12/06	- Haybales were straightened up but still needs attention when feasible.

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<b>345kV H-Frame</b>  Chestnut Ridge Section  Bethel Reservoir Section to Chestnut Ridge Rd.  Costa Lane, Whortleberry, Lime Kiln and John Todd Way	straightened up but sediment was still encroaching. 6/28-7/12/06  -The majority of the pile at structure#6 has been removed but soil remains encroaching on wetlands 4/12-7/12/06.  - Non project related vehicles had not returned to the stream & wetland between poles #10-11. But ruts and disturbance remain. 6/28-7/12/06. -Some vegetation is returning here. 7/12/06  - The additional fence for the access and clearing for wire pulling remains in place near structure #24 7/12/06.  - The driveway contractor (unrelated to the project) remains in this area. He placed boulders on his silt fence in the construction of the driveway 7/12/06.  - The access road erosion near structure #31 was regraded and haybales were noted. 7/12/06  -Silt fence near structure #30 could use some repair. 7/12/06  -The area of silt fence near pole #11078 was in place. 7/12/06.  - The foundation near the Norwalk substation has	- Remove the soil here as soon as conditions can support this without further impact. 2/22-7/12/06.  - Haybales should be placed across the ROW to prevent sedimentation and help discourage access. 5/17-7/12/06  - Install haybales for additional control/ reinforcement since the areas tends to washout 7/5-7/12/06.  - This is not project related but should be noted for the record in case there are issues here later. 6/7-7/12/06.  - Continue to monitor. We just have to confirm that the swale has been filled in. 7/12/06  - Monitor and repair fence as needed. 7/12/06  -Continue to monitor and maintain prior to a washout 7/12/06  -Continue to monitor due to proximity of the river. Restore the adjacent area	- Needs attention when feasible  - Needs attention (even though the majority of the damage is not project related.)  -Could use additional reinforcement.  - Not project jurisdictional  - Haybales are in place. We need to confirm the swale was filled in.  -Needs attention  -Needs monitoring  - Needs attention if feasible
<b>Norwalk Section</b>			

Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
Kent Rd. (North – new ROW section)	good silt fence coverage. 5/17-7/12/06. However, bare, exposed soil remains adjacent to the foundation. 6/7-7/12/06	with vegetation to reduce potential run-off, even if it is temporarily. 6/7-7/12/06	
Erosion controls continued	<p>-The structure location off Wilton Terrace at the edge of the wetland area will be pulled back further to the bank of the access road. 7/12/06</p> <p>- The stone access pad north off Kent Rd was highly clogged with sediment and it was tracking to the street. This had worsened with the rain and run-off. 7/12/06</p> <p>-Although it could not be directly observed due to a blocked access road, crews stated that silt fence was extended in the requested locations at the stream and the pond in the Kent Rd north section 7/12/06.</p>	<p>- Erosion controls will be placed at the work limits. Haybales are appropriate if the workspace is tight. 6/28-7/12/06</p> <p>-Clean and improve the pad and sweep the street as soon as possible. 7/12/06</p> <p>-Confirm erosion controls are in place as intended and have not encroached on existing vegetation. 7/12/06</p>	<p>-The structure location will be pulled back even further</p> <p>-Needs attention</p> <p>- Erosion controls have been extended</p>
Kent Rd. (South)	<p>- Mats were in place at the pooled wetland crossing as well. Water here remains clear without obvious turbidity. 6/7-7/5/06</p> <p>- Mats are installed along much of the ROW south of Kent Rd. Sediment and stone was being pulled back from the fence and it was going to be reinforced with haybales 7/12/06.</p>	<p>- Erosion controls were well installed and should be maintained. 6/7-7/5/06</p> <p>-Continue to repair and reinforce. These areas will be difficult to control during heavy rain due. 7/12/06</p>	<p>-N/A</p> <p>- Sediment was being pulled back</p>
	-The D&M plan	- As the access is	-N/A until evaluated at

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Inland Wetland and Watercourse encroachment and mitigation	approved stone on geotextile fabric at the wetland crossings have worked well. 4/6-7/12/06.	considered temporary, the stone will be removed when final work ends so the wetlands can be restored. 1/26-7/12/06.	the end of work.
<b>Composite</b>	- Turbidity had been noted in the wetland at the 3 <sup>rd</sup> crossing from access road run-off on 6/28/06 but the water level has since receded. 7/5-7/12/06	- Maintain controls and identify where the run-off was entering 6/28-7/12/06.	-Needs attention
<b>345kV H-Frame</b>	- At structure #6, most of the mud was removed from the wetland and they will continue to do so. 4/6-7/12/06.	- Continue to remove entire pile. 2/16-7/12/06.	-Needs attention when feasible.
	- Non project related vehicles had not returned to the wetland between #10-11 but damage remains. Some vegetative growth was noted 7/12/06	- Haybales should be added across the access road on both side of the wetland to reduce sedimentation. 5/25-7/12/06	-Needs attention (the majority of disturbance is from non project related vehicles)
<b>Norwalk Section</b>	-Off Kent Rd north, it was not directly observed, but crews stated silt fence was extended at the resource areas as recommended 7/12/06.	-Confirm that the controls are in place as intended. 7/12/06.	-Erosion controls were extended
	- Some access impact may occur at the edge of a wetland near the Kent Rd pond in order to access a foundation location. 6/28-7/12/06	- Mats and controls will be utilized in this area and the location will be moved back even farther. 6/28-7/12/06	-N/A at this time
<b>All Sections</b>	- Use caution in clearing trees from wetland areas. Avoid creating ruts when skidding them out. 3/29-7/12/06.	- Retain shrubs and low growth as much as possible, especially at stream buffers. 3/2-7/12/06.	- N/A
	-If a wetland is being	-Carefully remove brush	-N/A





Areas of Inspection	Observation	Recommended Action	Corrective Action
Norwalk Section	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some clearing of new ROW continues north of Kent Rd., coming in from the other end of the pond. Some additional clearing/ log removal efforts remain 7/12/06.</li> <li>- Some efforts were made to retain stumps and shrubs near the pond, stream and pooled area. 6/7-7/12/06.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Be extremely careful to retain shrubs and vegetation where feasible. 5/25-7/12/06.</li> <li>- Some downed branches were noted in the stream that could be carefully removed. 6/7-7/12/06</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-N/A</li> <li>- N/A.</li> </ul>
Dewatering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No obvious dewatering efforts were noted at the time of inspection. 7/12/06.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Release water to the ground only in well vegetated areas if it will not reach any resource areas. (Make sure to check downgradient for these areas) Otherwise use a filter bag or adequate containment. 3/9-7/12/06.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-N/A at this time</li> </ul>
Blasting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-No blasting has been necessary at this time on the ROW. 7/12/06.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-None at this time. 7/12/06.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-N/A</li> </ul>
Spills and Material Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-None of the parked or active equipment was leaking at the time of inspection. 3/15-7/12/06.</li> <li>- In general, equipment should be parked over 100 ft from resource areas or as far as feasible. 7/12/06</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continue to keep all vehicles maintained well (i.e. no apparent fluid leaks) if they will be used or stored on site</li> <li>- Keep adequately size fuel kits for worst-case scenarios.</li> <li>- Report spills immediately, even if they are being controlled.</li> <li>- Avoid refueling in the areas near the wetlands. Use proper storage for all materials.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-N/A</li> <li>- Continue to monitor</li> </ul>
Additional Observations			

Next likely scheduled

**inspection:** Wednesday July 19, 2006

I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and certify that based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I understand that any false statements made in this document or its attachments may be punishable as a criminal offense in accordance with Section 22a-6 under Section 53a-157 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

**Inspector's Signature:** Diana Walden for Don Ukers



**(Composite Section):** Photo on the left shows crews working on clipping in the wire along the Archers Lane ROW. Photo on the right shows the wetland crossing off Gallows Hill Rd. Water within the wetland remains clear. 7/12/06



**(345kV H-Frame):** Photo on the left shows controls remaining in good shape at the access road to the ROW at Bethel reservoir. Photo on the right shows where vegetation is returning to the wetland crossing here. Haybales should still be staked in place across the road on either side of the wetland. 7/12/06.





**Photo on the left shows a view of the ROW along the Chestnut Ridge Rd section. Photo on the right shows the residential contractor working near structure #24. The contractor placed boulders on his silt fence here. 7/12/06**



**Photo on the left shows the wire pulling continuing near John Todd Way. Photo on the right shows where the access road was regraded following washouts near structure #31. Haybales were in place. 7/12/06.**





**(Kent Rd) Photo shows foundation reinforcement work at the first pole location north of Kent Rd. The stone access to the road is clogged with sediment and this is flowing to and tracking to the roadway. This needs to be swept and the entrance improved. 7/12/06.**



**Photo on the left shows where stone and sediment were being pulled back from overwhelmed portions of silt fence along the access road to the south of Kent Road. Haybales will be installed here as reinforcement. Photo on the right shows an overview of the access road. 7/12/06**





**Photo on the left shows the newly installed structure #67 in the vicinity of North Seir Hill Rd. Photo on the right shows the edge of a wetland area near a proposed foundation location adjacent to the pond. This pole location will be pulled back as far as possible from the wetland. 7/12/06**



**Photo on the left shows the new crossing constructed by the railroad from Arrowhead Rd to the Wilton Terrace portion of the ROW (north of the pond). Photo on the right shows an overview of this portion of the ROW following clearing. 7/12/06**